

We claim:

1. An assembly comprising:  
a plurality of bound books;  
an end board adjacent the plurality of bound books; and  
5 an electronic ID secured to the end board, the ID being readable to obtain  
information regarding the books.

2. The assembly as set forth in claim 1 wherein the electronic ID includes at least  
one of a microchip and RF technology.

3. An assembly comprising:  
a plurality of signatures;  
an end board adjacent the plurality of signatures; and  
an electronic ID secured to the end board, the ID being readable to obtain  
15 information regarding the signatures.

4. The assembly as set forth in claim 3 wherein the electronic ID includes at least  
one of a microchip and RF technology.

5. An assembly comprising:  
a plurality of constrained printed products; and  
an electronic ID coupled to the plurality of constrained printed products and  
being readable while coupled to the printed products to obtain information regarding the  
printed products.

6. The assembly as set forth in claim 5 wherein the printed products are  
constrained using a fastener including at least one of an end board, a strap and a container.

7. The assembly as set forth in claim 5 wherein the ID is secured to the fastener.

8. The assembly as set forth in claim 5 wherein the printed products include at  
least one of signatures and books.

- 5        9.        A method of processing printed products comprising:  
              creating an assembly of printed products;  
              programming an electronic ID with information relating to the printed  
              products;  
              coupling the ID to the assembly;  
              transporting the assembly to a destination for processing; and  
              reading the ID.
- 10        10.       The method of claim 9 and further including the step of handling the assembly  
              in response to the information read from the ID.
- 15        11.       The method of claim 9 wherein the printed products include at least one of  
              signatures and bound books.
- 20        12.       A method of processing printed products comprising:  
              creating an assembly of constrained printed products;  
              programming an electronic ID with information relating to the printed  
              products;  
              coupling the ID to the assembly, the ID being readable while coupled to the  
              assembly;  
              transporting the assembly to a destination for processing; and  
              reading the ID.
- 25        13.       The method of claim 12 and further including the step of handling the  
              assembly in response to the information read from the ID.
- 30        14.       A method of processing printed product comprising:  
              reading an electronic ID that is coupled to an assembly of printed products;  
              and  
              transporting the assembly to a destination for processing.

15. The method of claim 14 wherein the printed products include at least one of signatures and bound books.

5 16. A method of processing printed products comprising:  
creating an assembly of printed products;  
coupling an electronic ID to the assembly;  
transporting the assembly to a destination for processing; and  
reading the ID while it is coupled to the assembly to obtain information  
regarding the printed products.

10 17. The method of claim 16 and further including the step programming the electronic ID with the information relating to the printed products.

15 18. A method of processing printed products comprising:  
coupling an electronic ID to an assembly of printed products;  
transporting the assembly to a destination for processing; and  
reading the ID while coupled to the assembly to obtain information about the  
printed products.

20 19. A method of processing printed products comprising:  
creating an assembly of printed products;  
programming an electronic ID with information relating to the printed  
products; and  
coupling the ID to the assembly so as to be readable while so coupled.

25 20. A method of creating an assembly of printed products comprising:  
associating a plurality of printed products with one another;  
programming an electronic ID with information relating to the printed  
products; and  
30 associating the ID with the printed products so as to be readable in situ.